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287CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of GermanyREPORT NO. [REDACTED]TOPIC Soviet Road and Rail Movements in Thuringia

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EVALUATION See belowPLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]DATE PREPARED 1 May 1950REFERENCES [REDACTED]PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]REMARKS [REDACTED]**RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY**

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1. a. A train consisting of 12 flatcars carrying one canvas-covered gun each, and 10 boxcars occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, was observed passing through Erfurt (M 51/Y 36) at 8 p.m. on 21 March 1950. The train came from the direction of Weimar (M 51/J 57) and headed toward Gotha (M 51/J 06).

b. A train consisting of 14 flatcars carrying rail-type rocket launchers, and six boxcars occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, was observed passing through Erfurt at 10 p.m. on 29 March 1950. The train came from the direction of Weimar and headed toward Gotha. It was bound for Ohrdruf (M 51/J 15), according to a railroadman. *

2. Nine trucks carrying 40 to 50 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets, and tires, furniture and household equipment, were observed passing through Ilmenau (M 51/J 23) at 10 a.m. on 23 March 1950. The trucks proceeded toward Erfurt. One truck flew red flags and displayed a picture of Stalin.

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 51No Change in Place ☐☒ DeclassifyClass. CONFIDENTIALAuth: FMDate: 0-9-JUN-1978

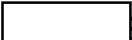
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 Comment:

- * The trains observed in Erfurt carried troops, possibly of the 20th Gds Mecz Div, who were bound for Ohrdruf.

Eighth Gds Army units, especially component units of the 20th Gds Mecz Div and 39th Gds Itz Rifle Div, also held their exercises in Ohrdruf in 1949.

The report is the first from Thuringia to state that troop units, beginning in mid-March 1950, moved to training grounds.

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